

Marconi — *FOOTBALL*



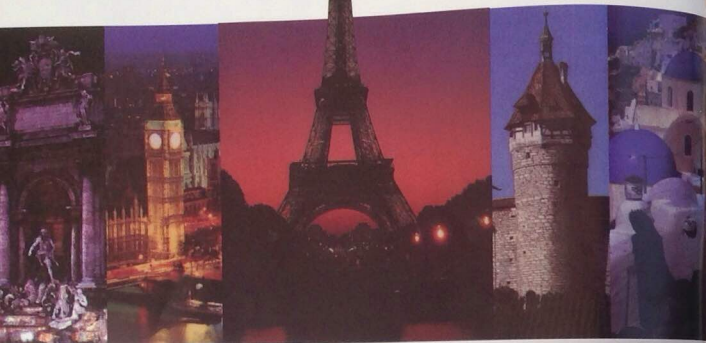
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MARCONI-FOOTBALL

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Marconi Soccer Club
Club Marconi
Social, Recreation & Sporting Centre
Limited
Marconi Road, Bossley Park, NSW
2176

TELEPHONE: (02) 823 2222

FAX: (02) 823 3667

Club President Tony Labbozzetta
Soccer Manager Frank Labbozzetta
Advertising Officer Maurizio Pagnin
Coach Manfred Schaefer
Club Captain Jean-Paul de Marigny

Published by

Dunroon

PUBLISHING & MARKETING
on behalf of the
Marconi-Fairfield Soccer Club

EDITOR

Bruce Campbell
TEL: (06) 299 2332
FAX: (06) 299 2332

ADVERTISING

Maurizio Pagnin
TEL: (02) 823 2222

POSTAL ADDRESS

Marconi Football
PO Box 869
Queanbeyan, NSW 2620

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EDITORIAL

Waiting for the sea change

IS IT a case of "as you were" in this year's national league, the Ericsson Cup? Has there been any great cosmetic change, the sea change that we are all waiting for so that our sport can leap on in the public image?

The Atlanta Olympics will give Australian soccer its next big chance to capture mass media profile. Then just around the corner we have the 1998 World Cup in France when Australia's route consists of our own Oceania section and then a play-off against the fourth best placed team in Asia. After that there is the Sydney 2000 Olympics when the Clyroos take their spot automatically as hosts and almost immediately after that is the 2002 World Cup which will either be played in Korea or Japan.

If our qualifying path stays the same then Australia will have to battle it out against the fifth best team in Asia, with the hosts already accommodated. That gives our marketing gurus a sustained period of seven years during which time we should be involved in two Olympic Games and two World Cups.

This is the time when our sport sits on the horizon. The future of the game in this country is woven in between the national teams and the national league. The national teams provide the impetus for public exposure while the national league provides the back-up, the bread and butter if you like.

This time if we miss the boat then it will be tantamount to criminal negligence, for FIFA has given us every possible help by its qualifying changes and venue choices. Now it is up to us - but we have to ensure that the national league is ready to take on board any increase in public profile, any increase in supporters and any increase in commercial awareness. It isn't any good pumping all of our eggs into the national team basket - because that represents only one part of the equation.

The sport needs a massive injection of finance to be ready for that possible success - and it needs it now. We have been told about the brave new direction, we have been promised a clean sweep, we have been told that the future is bright.

But I personally haven't seen anything which would make me think that the light globe has been turned on.

Instead I have gone to grounds all over the country where it is a case of the same as last year. The new clubs don't look to be any better off than the old ones, and the same lack of marketing imagination emanating, or not emanating, from HQ pervades our sport.

If I have maybe overlooked something then please show me, if I haven't then it is maybe time for the fans of this great game to become a bit more demanding of those who run the game at the highest level - before we completely miss the boat.

Matt wants to be remembered; as a fullback



TWO YEARS ago Matt Bingley seemed to be ready for big things on the international scene.

That year he played a brilliant game against AC Milan at the Sydney Football Stadium and also marked his full international debut against South Korea. But since then he has been largely overlooked, one of the forgotten men of Aussie football.

That might soon be all changed and the twenty-five-year old who was once one of the bright teenagers in Aussie football is now ready to grab his chance in the Soccerroo shirt – but this time he wants to keep it.

"I don't know why I dropped out of the national team reckoning," he said, before the midweek match with New Zealand.

"I felt that I had done well enough in that game against AC Milan and so I was a bit surprised not to figure in Thommo's later plans."

As Marconi Football went to press Bingley was due to line up for his second cap in the return Trans Tasman Cup match against New Zealand.

But that inclusion was only after the withdrawal of Kevin Muscat who flew out last week to join English club Sheffield United.

"That really didn't worry Marconi's attacking fullback who wanted to use the opportunity to push his own claims rather than worry about those of others."

"I think one of the problems in the past is that I've been seen as a utility player rather than as a specialised defender," he adds. "That is one thing I want to change – I want people to recognise me as Matthew Bingley,



attacking fullback.

"It's time that I stopped moving all over the park with my game suffering as a result."

"From now on I want to make my position my own – and become a specialist rather than a jack of all trades."

Just a few years ago Bingley's career was going nowhere until he was brought to Marconi by Frank Arok and converted from a forward into an attacking fullback.

The insight that he developed as a striker has greatly added to his game and given him an advantage when going on one of his famous touchline runs.

It seems that everyone except Eddie Thomson was a big fan, but now the Soccerroo coach has joined that club with Bingley's return from international exile.

And now he wants to concentrate on the attacking fullback position and make a name for himself with the Soccerroos.

Along the way a league championship wouldn't be bad either, something that Matt sees as a real possibility this season.

"Yes, we've got the team to do it," he says, "and once we've gelled together then there is no reason why Marconi shouldn't be up at the top of the table."

The one that got away



Bobby Catlin rarely lets one slip past him – but recently he played his 200th without any fanfare.

Bobby came back to Marconi last season after a spell in England with Notts County during which time he was also out on loan to Birmingham City.

At the start of that season he had notched up a total of 185 games recorded in two seasons with APIA and six at Marconi.

Another 13 games under Andrea Icardi left him two short of the

double century – a barrier he smashed in the Round 2 game against Newcastle Breakers, the one that the statisticians forgot.

That leaves him on 205 going into tonight's match against South Melbourne and he has only had one unhappy ninety minutes in those last few games.

"I want to forget the one against Canberra in a hurry," he says.

"Everything was going wrong that night and every time I went up to get a high ball against Marko Perinovic I was getting clattered

with elbows and knees.

"Sometimes the fans don't realise how hard it is to play against a striker like that – but he's got five or ten yards to run up for a ball whereas often I have to go up from a standing start."

"You need a referee's protection and if you don't get it then it can be really tough."

Bobby is now on the long slog for 250 NSL games – with the return game against Canberra clearly marked in his diary as another red letter day.

JUNIOR SOCCER TRIALS

for Southern Districts local competitions

All children of club members are eligible to trial for their respective age group. Players must be ready 15 minutes prior to commencement times wearing boots, shin pads etc. Players are required to attend from the first trial date in order to fully qualify for selection.

For further information, please contact Mr Tony Bulla on 823 2222 after 6.00 pm

Sunday 19th November 1995

Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10 commencing 9.00 am
Grade 11 commencing 4.00 pm

Tuesday 21st November 1995

Grade 11 commencing 6.00 pm

Wednesday 22nd November 1995

Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10 commencing 6.00 pm

Friday 24th November 1995

Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10 commencing 6.00 pm

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November 1995

Grade 12 commencing 9.00 am both days



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The Longo class

MANFRED Schaefer didn't waste much time when he knew that Dominic Longo was available.

"Look," he says in that way that really means 'listen', "I knew that Dominic was on the market and I spoke to Tony Labbozzetta.

"Tony had already spoken to him when he was over in Europe trying to sort out the Corica mess (an unhappy transfer wrangle that still remains unresolved) and he said that if I thought he was good enough then we should sign him.

"Dominic Longo is a class player and the sort who very seldom becomes available on the Australian domestic market - so we signed him."

The Socceroo international spent three weeks at Marconi in trials and training before pens were put to paper and the business end was finally tied up but in that time the defender impressed his new coach with his attitude, ability - and hardness.

"We had him playing at the back of the defence in training," says Schaefer, "and had him marking up against the strikers - but we had to take him out of there because he was causing our players too much damage.

"I just wish that we had him in against Canberra Cosmos, he would have made all of the difference against their centre forward, Marko Perinovic."

Dominic Longo has



Stretching before an Olyroo match - now Dominic Longo is set to stretch opposing forward lines in the colours of the Marconi Stallions

surprisingly only 46 NSL games to his credit before linking up with Marconi - gained in spells with Blacktown City before their sacking from the national league and then Newcastle Breakers.

That followed an apprenticeship at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra where

coach Ron Smith still regards highly of his talent.

From there it was overseas to Belgium with Cercle Brugge, the first division club which still holds his contract.

And of course he was very much a part of Eddie Thomson's World Cup plans, playing both games against New

Zealand.

But for now Longo will be looking to push his NSL statistics to the seventy plus mark before he likely heads back to Europe after his one season loan option with Marconi finishes.

"He'll do a good job at this club," insists Schaefer, "Dominic is a very classy player."

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OPPOSITE
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Football is a game about opinions - so let's

Take the gag off

ONE OF the great things about this game is that there is always controversy being provided by the referees - unless you are a referee, then you might see it in a slightly different way.

Another great thing is that it is a game of opinions.

A recent article in *Marconi Football* about referees has drawn a lot of comment, most of it in agreement, while refs have also put themselves in the spotlight again with a spate of recent bookings for 'diving'.

The grand master of the spectacular swan dive in the penalty box is the German striker, Jurgen Klinsmann.

He has perfected it to an art form, and has won many penalties for his country, and club, by going down in the right place at the right time.

From Round 1 of this season's Ericsson Cup the men in the middle have conducted a relentless crusade to rid the game of the cheats, the players who go too easily in the box.

Three cases stand out - Sean Babic for Sydney United, Paul Dee for Canberra in a game against Marconi and Brisbane's Frank Farina.

Maybe Frankie was the last hard done by of that trio because he has milked the penalty box dry over the years but in

all three cases each of the players was actually fouled and instead of getting the appropriate free kick or penalty they were themselves booked.

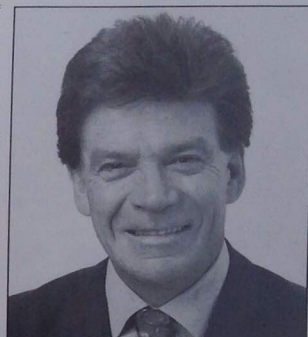
But the rules of the game stop coaches and players from making statements about things like that so thank goodness for SBS Television.

Warren Johnson (pictured right) has condemned these recent decisions in *On The Ball* for what they are - poor refereeing.

But the issue goes deeper than that, the real issue is the gagging of coaches.

The referees are also gagged so they can't make any comment about their decisions, to either defend them or atone for maybe a genuine mistake in the heat of a game.

After all, the ref is human too - even if most



of the crowd have doubts about their legitimacy.

So what about the fans, don't we matter?

We pay our ten bucks (or twelve if you happen to be a Canberra supporter) to watch a game but then are denied hearing or

reading about the decisions which often affect the game.

Coaches aren't kids who need to be sent to their bedroom, neither are referees - so why doesn't the ASF take the initiative and remove the gag?

Welcome back

MIKE SMITH couldn't have picked a worse game to make his long-awaited return to the first team from a back injury - the home match against Canberra Cosmos. Maybe the team picked up a very valuable three points - but it wasn't the best game to play in with Canberra's long ball and rough-house tactics proving just as unpopular with the fans as the players.

And to cap it all off - coach Manfred Schaefer had all the players back in for extra training on Sunday at 10 am to sort out some of the problems coming out of that match.

So the big Scotsman had to miss his Sunday lie in and make the long drive from the Eastern Suburbs - while his team-mate Francis Awartite had to cancel an SBS *On The Ball* appearance for the same reason.





Aaron Holst

takes time out on the rub down table before getting into first team action.

This season the youngster has been very much a part of Manfred Schaefer's defensive plans as the Stallions look to bring back the good times to Marconi Stadium.

Photo: Andrew Dawson



The Bomber's Bench

AS I HAVE SAID before this club is always in the market for new players and the signing of Dominic Longo is proof of that statement.

Any time that a player who is considered to be better than the present squad becomes available then we will move in for him.

I am delighted to have a player of Dominic's pedigree on board at Marconi and I wish him all the best of success during this season.

Sometimes in this game you don't get the results you deserve; sometimes you get results which you don't deserve. That is football, that is the nature of the game.

We haven't been playing up to our best recently and have struggled because of that.

The game against Canberra was maybe a game which we should have won by more but didn't. At the end of the day we got a narrow result but despite what the press said I don't believe that Canberra made one single clear cut scoring chance. And if you don't get goals then you can't win games.

It is also fairly common knowledge that I wasn't happy with

our performance and as a result brought the players back in on Sunday for an extra training session - even though the result took us top of the table.

That is how serious we are about winning the championship this season. Winning isn't enough, we have to be playing well also otherwise we aren't going to keep on getting those results which have so far kept us in the Top Six.

Against Wollongong we went down for the second time this season but both games have been away from home and it only serves to remind us all just what a tough league we have this season.

Away games will always be difficult to take three points from and so we must make sure that we take all of our home points.

I believe that we are on target to achieve what I set out to at the beginning of the season but we have to win tonight to keep that aim realistic. Home wins are vital and any team in this league which strings together a succession of home and away wins will quickly find itself alone at the top of the



table - and that is where we want to be.

I think that the easing off against Canberra was a symptom of an early goal, although they are an extremely hard type of team to play against.

They have forged together a competitive side which plays the 'Wimbledon long ball' game.

That doesn't make it easy for any body to beat them but we have learned something from that game; that we have to compete for ninety minutes and go out to punish teams with lesser talent than us. One goal simply isn't enough and I hope you all see a more competitive Marconi team - starting tonight.

Manfred Schaefer

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First Phase

A v Brisbane 6.10.95 WON 3-1
H v Newcastle 14.10.95 WON 2-0
A v Knights 18.10.95 LOST 0-2
H v Morwell 21.10.95 DREW 2-2
A v Adelaide City 29.10.95 WON 2-0
H v Cosmos 4.11.95 WON 1-0
A v Wollongong 10.11.95 LOST 0-2
H v South Melbourne 18.11.95
A v UTS Olympic 26.11.95
H v Sydney United 2.12.95
H v West Adelaide 6.12.95

Second Phase

H v Brisbane Strikers 9.12.95
A v Newcastle Breakers 15.12.95
H v Melbourne Knights 23.12.95
A v Morwell Falcons 26.12.95
H v Adelaide City 30.12.95
A v Canberra Cosmos 6.1.96
H v Wollongong Wolves 3.2.96
A v South Melbourne 11.2.96
H v UTS Olympic 17.2.96
A v Sydney United 24.2.96
A v West Adelaide 3.3.96

Third Phase

A v Brisbane Strikers 9.3.96
H v Newcastle Breakers 12.3.96
H v Morwell Falcons 23.3.96
A v Adelaide City 27.3.96
H v Canberra Cosmos 30.3.96
A v Wollongong Wolves 6.4.96
H v South Melbourne 8.4.96
A v UTS Olympic 14.4.96
H v Sydney United 21.4.96
H v West Adelaide 28.4.96

Top Six Series

Semi Finals
1st Leg 4th/5th May
2nd Leg 11th/12th May
Minor Semi Final
18th or 19th May
Preliminary Final
25th or 26th May
Grand Final
June

Johnnie Walker Cup

Knockout Rounds (16 teams)
13-27 January
Cup Final
2nd June

*All dates believed correct at time of press but subject to change

Francis aims for that high level for goals

FRANCIS Awaritefe has certainly set the hearts of Marconi fans beating this season with his goal scoring exploits – even although the star striker himself says that there is still more to come – much more.

"We still have a lot more to do as a team," he says.

"No-one should really be judging us on these early games.

"There are a lot of new players and it will take time for everything to really fit in properly – that is only to be expected."

In the Stallions' last home game against Canberra Cosmos that point was proven when Awaritefe collided with his strike partner Andy Harper – with the goal seemingly at their mercy.

Luckily that blunder didn't prove crucial but it emphasises the striker's point that total understanding is still a bit off.

"We have to communicate a bit better on the field," he says, "and that mix-up is maybe a perfect example.

"But I'm not training with the team that much either because I

am still living in Melbourne.

"Obviously that doesn't help too much but that should be sorted out very shortly."

But regardless of any lack of cohesion in areas of play Francis is well aware that the Stallions have gotten off to an excellent start – with his form in particular capturing rare reviews from print and TV media alike.

"It has been a dream start," he admits, "it has been good to score those early goals.

"Marconi has signed me to score goals and I'm doing that so we are all happy.

"It is so much easier when you get to play with good players and that is what we have here at the club.

"But the main thing just now is to score goals and get results."

Awaritefe didn't need too much persuading either when he was head-hunted by coach Manfred Schaefer, even with the Melbourne press having him already signed on at Morwell Falcons.

"Marconi is a very famous club," he admits, "and any player would love to come here.



The casual approach: but Francis Awaritefe when will be anything but casual when he runs out today against his former club

"The administration is second to none and it is for me the best club in Australia."

Those might be prophetic words with Francis Awaritefe today facing up to the club which sensationally dumped him in the off-season.

South Melbourne will prove a big emotional test for the talented striker who has proven an enigma to many coaches.

In the opening weeks of the league Marconi fans have gotten glimpses of his unfashionable style, a style which sees defenders left stranded in his slip stream as he jets by them.

Former Sydney Olympic coach Tommy Serranni is an admirer of the Awaritefe style – even though he can't quite work it out.

"I'd think that even Francis doesn't quite know how he controls the ball the way he does," says the man now at the helm of the Female Socceros.

"I don't think that it is anything that he practices, rather a very natural skill.

"But his ability with the ball is something else and I rate him very highly as a player – you would have to say that he is right up there with the very best."

With Mike Smith and Gary van Egmond back off the injury list and Dominic Longo added to the squad the competition for places at the club is now starting to hot up – something which Awaritefe relishes.

"Yes, that is good for the club," he says.

"It keeps everybody on their toes and playing to their potential.

"But the team spirit here is really good as well, and that is important because if you are going to spend a lot of time with guys then you have to get on.

"I'm enjoying the club although I am still not totally happy with my

own form.

"But the important thing is that we are winning games and the goals are going in – the rest will come."

"The hallmark with Melbourne Knights and South Melbourne, when I was with those clubs, was that they were consistent throughout the year.

"That is why we always finished high up in the league.

"You have to play to a high level every week and there must be a very small difference between your good and bad games – and that is what we have to try and do at Marconi."

Today Francis Awaritefe aims to step up to that high level again, but this time in the blue of Marconi rather than the blue of his former club, South Melbourne.

And if in the process he sets the terraces alight with his own particular brand of football magic then so much the better.

SMOKING IT?

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ERICSSON CUP THE TOP MARKSMEN

- 5 Damien MORI (Adelaide City)
- 4 Francis AWARITEFE (Marconi-Fairfield)
- 4 Warren SPINK (Morwell Falcons)
- 4 Kiron TALADROS (UTS Olympic)
- 3 Andy HARPER (Marconi-Fairfield)
- 3 Frank FARINA (Brisbane Strikers)
- 3 Tony PERINICH (Wollongong Wolves)
- 3 Kris TRAJANOVSKI (UTS Olympic)
- 3 Jim TSEKINS (West Adelaide)
- 2 David ZDRILIC (Sydney United)
- 2 Elias AUGERINOS (UTS Olympic)
- 2 Shaun BABIC (Sydney United)
- 2 Jason BENNETT (Newcastle Breakers)
- 2 Brian BOTHWELL (Morwell Falcons)
- 2 Sean CRANNEY (Brisbane Strikers)
- 2 Bill DAMIANOS (South Melbourne)
- 2 Brad MALONEY (Marconi-Fairfield)
- 2 Lupcho NAUMOVSKI (Wollongong City)
- 2 Michael REDA (Morwell Falcons)
- 2 Joe SPITERI (Melbourne Knights)
- 2 Norman TOKE (UTS Olympic)
- 1 Walter ARDONE (UTS Olympic)
- 1 Lachlan ARMSTRONG (Canberra Cosmos)
- 1 Joe BACAK (UTS Olympic)
- 1 Mark BATTISTIN (Brisbane Strikers)
- 1 Jason BENNETT (Newcastle Breakers)
- 1 Matthew BINGLEY (Marconi-Fairfield)
- 1 Damian BROWN (Newcastle Breakers)
- 1 Rod BROWN (Brisbane Strikers)
- 1 Claudio CANOSA (Morwell Falcons)
- 1 Pablo CARDOZO (West Adelaide)
- 1 Adam CIANTAR (UTS Olympic)
- 1 Paul DEE (Canberra Cosmos)
- 1 Bobby DESPOTOVSKI (Morwell Falcons)

the next Ericsson Cup Match at Marconi Stadium



Sydney United
Saturday, 02 December 1995
KICK OFF 7.00pm

1995/96 MARCONI STATISTICS

Best Crowd:
6,118 v Brisbane Strikers (Away) - Round 1

Best Home Crowd:
4,597 v Newcastle Breakers - Round 2

Total Home Crowds:
11,394 (3 games)

Average Home Crowd:
3,798

95/96 Ericsson Cup Top Crowd:
8,284 West Adelaide v Adelaide City (Rnd 6)

Player Appearances:

- 7 Awaritefe
- 7 Beltrame
- 6 Bingley
- 1 Casserly
- 7 Catlin
- 5 Climent
- 7 Harper
- 6 Holst
- 7 Hristodoulou
- 6 Iocca
- 7 Maloney
- 2 de Marigny
- 2 Ravanello
- 2 Renaud
- 2 Smith
- 6 Souris
- 7 Stanton

Goals Scored:

- 4 Francis Awaritefe
- 3 Andy Harper
- 2 Brad Maloney
- 1 Matthew Bingley



ROUND 8 MATCHES

Newcastle Breakers v Adelaide City
Brisbane Strikers v Canberra Cosmos
Marconi-Fairfield v South Melbourne
UTS Olympic v Sydney United
West Adelaide v Wollongong City
Melbourne Knights v Morwell Falcons

&figuresfacts&figuresfacts&

ROUND 7

Wollongong City 2 Marconi-Fairfield 0
Attendance: 3,127
League Position: 4th
Marconi: Catlin, de Marigny, Stanton, Harper, Hristodoulou (Iocca 80), Climent (Maloney 45), Smith, Holst, Beltrame (Ravanello 60), Awaritefe, Souris.
Referee: B Hugo
Yellow Cards: Beltrame
Best Stallion: Bobby Catlin - JK

ROUND 6

Marconi-Fairfield 1 Canberra Cosmos 0
Scorer: Awaritefe
Attendance: 6,117
League Position: 1st
Marconi: Catlin, de Marigny, Stanton, Bingley, Harper, Hristodoulou, Climent (Iocca 68), Maloney, Smith (Beltrame 54), Awaritefe, Souris.
Referee: J Papanicolaou
Best Stallion: Francis Awaritefe - MT

ROUND 5

Adelaide City 0 Marconi-Fairfield 2
Scorers: Maloney, Awaritefe
Attendance: 4,866
League Position: 2nd
Marconi: Catlin, de Marigny, Stanton, Bingley, Harper (Iocca 77), Hristodoulou, Climent (Beltrame 85), Maloney, Holst (Renaud 37), Awaritefe, Souris.
Referee: E Brazzale
Yellow Cards: Maloney, Climent, Iocca, de Marigny
Best Stallion: Francis Awaritefe - IMCD

ROUND 4 Marconi-Fairfield 2 Morwell Falcons 2

Scorers: Awaritefe, Harper
Attendance: 3,180
League Position: 2nd
Marconi: Catlin, Bingley, Holst, Souris, Stanton, de Marigny, Maloney, Hristodoulou, Climent (85), Iocca (Beltrame 59), Harper, Awaritefe
Referee: C Diomis
Yellow Cards: Stanton, Iocca, Harper
Best Stallion: Bobby Catlin - BC

ROUND 3

Melbourne Knights 2 Marconi-Fairfield 0
Attendance: 2,030
League Position: 2nd
Marconi: Catlin, de Marigny, Stanton, Bingley,

Harper, Hristodoulou, Maloney, Holst, Beltrame (Ravanello 60), Awaritefe (Iocca 74), Souris
Referee: G Connolly
Yellow Cards: de Marigny, Ravanello
Best Stallion: Jean Paul de Marigny - GB

ROUND 2

Marconi-Fairfield 2 Newcastle Breakers 0
Scorers: Maloney, Awaritefe
Attendance: 4,597
League Position: 1st
MARCONI: Catlin, Bingley, Souris, Stanton, de Marigny (C), Maloney, Beltrame, Hristodoulou (Iocca 83), Renaud (Holst 41), Harper, Awaritefe
Referee: C Naumovski
Yellow Card: Beltrame
Best Stallion: Paul Beltrame - JW

ROUND 1

Brisbane Strikers 1 Marconi-Fairfield 3
Scorers: Harper 2, Bingley
Attendance: 6,118
League Position: 2nd
MARCONI: Catlin, Stanton, Casserly (Iocca 30), Holst, de Marigny (C), Bingley, Hristodoulou, Beltrame, Maloney, Harper, Awaritefe (Climent 82)
Referee: Mr D Crawford
Yellow Card: Casserly
Best Stallion: Bobby Catlin

STALLION MATCH AWARDS

- 3 Bobby Catlin
- 2 Francis Awaritefe
- 1 Paul Beltrame
- 1 Jean Paul de Marigny

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Scundi Brothers

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD SOUTH MELBOURNE

MARCONI SQUAD

- 1 Bobby Catlin
- 2 Gary van Egmond
- 3 Jean-Paul de Marigny
- 4 Robbie Stanton
- 5 Matthew Bingley
- 6 Luke Casserly
- 7 Andy Harper
- 8 Eric Hristodoulou
- 9 Ramon Climent
- 10 Brad Maloney
- 11 Mike Smith
- 12 Jon Angelucci
- 13 Aaron Holst
- 14 Paul Beltrame
- 15 Ian Pollari
- 16 Darren Iocca
- 17 Francis Awariete
- 18 Paul Sours
- 19 Brendan Rensau
- 20 Leslie Pogliacomi
- 21 Andrew Flavanello
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28

COACH:
Manfred Schaefer



LAST SEASON: Marconi 5 South Melbourne 3
CURRENT FORM: Marconi haven't lost at home since March – and that is a record the Stallions won't want to lose tonight. That run also includes a big win against South Melbourne towards the end of last season. But both teams are coming off bad results last weekend and both will be out to prove a point tonight.
 Marconi have the edge on current form and also home ground advantage and if Harper and Awariete can combine that should prove enough.
 At the back new recruit Dominic Longo should add the touch of steel which has been missing.
PREDICTION: If the defence can keep tight at the back and Maloney and Bingley are on song then look for Marconi by a couple of goals 3-1.

THE BLUES SQUAD

- Dean Anastasiadis 1
 Con Blattsis 2
 Steve Magosi 3
 Alek Kuzmanovic 4
 Mike Valkanis 5
 Con Anthopoulos 6
 Steve Panopoulos 7
 Vaughn Coveney 8
 Paul Trimboli (C) 9
 Ivan Kelic 10
 Agim Sherifovski 11
 Bill Demianos 12
 Craig Lewis 13
 Michael Petersen 14
 Nick Papadopoulos 15
 Tansel Basar 16
 Sasa Nikolic 17
 Michael Curcija 18
 Daniel Alsopp 19
 Michael Litakakis 20
 Aleksander Duric 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

COACH:
Frank Arko



BIG MATCH RESULTS

ERICSSON CUP

ROUND 7

Friday 10 November
 Wollongong City 2 (Perinich, Naumovski)
 Marconi-Fairfield 0
 Venue: Brandon Park
 Att: 3,657 Referee: B Hugu

Marwell Falcons 1 (Despotovski)
 Newcastle Breakers 0
 Venue: Falcons Park
 Att: 3,040 Referee:

Saturday 11 November

Canberra Cosmos 1 (Wade)
 West Adelaide 1 (Cardozo)
 Venue: Bruce Stadium
 Att: 3,210 Referee: C Naumovski

Sunday 12 November

UTS Olympic 4 (Tome, Taliadoros, Trajanovski, Bacak)
 South Melbourne 2 (Darnianos, Sherifovski)
 Venue: Leichhardt Stadium
 Att: 4,607 Referee: S Micallef

Sydney United 2 (Zdrnic, S Babic)
 Melbourne Knights 0
 Venue: Croastan Sports Centre
 Att: 4,607 Referee: C Dromis

Adelaide City v Brisbane Strikers
 deferred until 14.11.95

LES SCHEINFLUG CUP

(Under 18 Youth Tournament)

Round 7

Wollongong City 2 Marconi-Fairfield 5
 NSW ITC 0 Queensland Academy 7
 ACT Academy 5 St George 1
 UTS Olympic 2 Parramatta eagles 2
 Blacktown City 2 Newcastle Breakers 1
 Sydney United 0 AIS 1

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Ericsson Cup

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| UTS Olympic | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 10 | 16 |
| Sydney United | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 14 |
| Marwell Falcons | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 8 | 13 |
| Marconi-Fairfield | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 7 | 13 |
| Melbourne Knights | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Adelaide City | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 9 |
| West Adelaide | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| Wollongong City | 7 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 7 |
| South Melbourne | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 7 |
| Brisbane Strikers | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 6 |
| Newcastle Breakers | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 14 | 5 |
| Canberra Cosmos | 7 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 4 |

*Midweek game not included.

Les Scheinflug Youth Cup

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Marconi-Fairfield | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 27 | 4 | 15 |
| Sydney United | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 17 | 8 | 15 |
| AIS | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 20 | 6 | 13 |
| Old Academy | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 8 | 13 |
| Parramatta Eagles | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 10 | 12 |
| UTS Olympic | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 16 | 13 | 11 |
| ACT Academy | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 15 | 14 | 10 |
| Wollongong City | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 17 | 9 |
| Blacktown City | 7 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 15 | 9 |
| Newcastle Breakers | 7 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 17 | 6 |
| St George | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 26 | 4 |
| NSW ITC | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 33 | 0 |

All games are 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.

NSL NOTICE

Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game. Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time. The setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited.

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LAST SIX LEAGUE HOME GAMES

- v Canberra Cosmos (4.11.95) WON 1-0
 v Marwell Falcons (21.10.95) DREW 2-2
 v Newcastle Breakers (14.10.95) WON 2-0
 v Brisbane Strikers (9.4.95) DREW 3-3
 v South Melbourne (25.3.95) WON 5-3
 v Sydney Olympic (18.3.95) LOST 0-1

LAST SIX LEAGUE AWAY GAMES

- v UTS Olympic LOST 2-4 (12.11.95)
 v Wollongong City LOST 0-2 (27.10.95)
 v Adelaide City WON 2-1 (18.10.95)
 v Marwell Falcons WON 1-0 (13.10.95)
 v Melbourne Knights LOST 0-1 (8.10.95)
 v Melbourne Knights TOP SIX LOST 2-3 (30.4.95)

the blues



Frank Arok in his days at Marconi: preaching his own particular brand of the gospel to the club's youngsters

Hot welcome in the old town tonight

FRANK AROK has been in the game long enough to know that the Stallion fans will be giving him a hot reception tonight.

That is par for the course for a man who took Marconi to their last championship before switching south to South Melbourne in a blaze of publicity at the beginning of last season.

So it will be a hot reception in the old town tonight – and Marconi fans will rejoice in singing 7-0, 7-0 – a reminder of that club record defeat that the Stallions inflicted on the Blues a couple of seasons back.

Ironically, it was Arok himself who masterminded Marconi to that win – but that is irrelevant in the scheme of things on the

terrace where the football is the hottest.

But maybe that thrashing was a significant part in South Melbourne's determination to get him south.

I first saw the genius of Arok's coaching in 1969 when he was with the then formidable St George.

He built a super team (and arguably Australia's finest ever club side) out of a shambles and launched, or revived, some of the biggest names in Australian football in the process.

In the years that have passed he has always possessed a flair for bringing on the unlikely, the struggling kid or the no-name player.

That is the Arok way, that is where he is maybe at his best and tonight Marconi

fans will ponder at a whole new list of South Melbourne names, names which very few out of the die-hard ranks of Melbourne Junior and Victorian Premier League soccer know anything about.

They have shown all of the symptoms of a new team so far, including an almost frustrating inability to play with any sort of consistency.

But it would be a most Arok-unlike team if there wasn't a new star hiding behind a youthful exterior or a player who he is moulding into a new role.

He did that at Marconi when he transformed Matt Bingley from a talented but unfulfilled forward into an international class fullback – just as he has done so

many, many times before. And those who are foolish enough to write Arok off already should remember what he did last season when he took his patched up warriors and workhorses to within a whisker of a Grand Final place – despite conceding the type of start which would have seen most coaches sacked.

Amongst the Sherilovskis, Lewises, Basens and Alsops there is a star waiting to be unleashed on the Aussie soccer public – that is a certainty.

But it might not be tonight, and if it isn't then the wily coach will forgive the Stallion supporters for giving him another roasting – because that, as they say, is football.

Bruce Campbell



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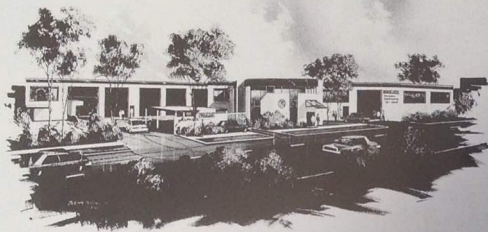
FROM THE SIDELINES

Married Schaefer and Alex Robertson take in the talent during a Les Schriebling Cup national youth league match.
This season Marconi has only one team in the newly-revamped youth league competition, with the Academy team dropping out as a result of the changes.

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LEADING GOALSCORERS

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 9 Bosevski | 1 Angelucci |
| 4 Care | 1 Climent |
| 3 van Cuylenberg | 1 Cunico |
| 3 Robertson | 1 Ravanello |
| 2 McDonald | 1 own goal |

LES SCHEINFLUG CUP National Youth League (Northern Division)

| | | |
|--------|------------------------|----------|
| 07 Oct | v Queensland Academy A | LOST 2-1 |
| 14 Oct | v Newcastle H | WON 2-0 |
| 21 Oct | v Blacktown H | WON 6-0 |
| 28 Oct | v NSW ITC A | WON 8-0 |
| 04 Nov | v ACT Academy H | WON 5-0 |
| 10 Nov | v Wollongong City A | WON 5-2 |
| 18 Nov | v Parramatta Eagles H | |
| 25 Nov | v UTS Olympic A | |
| 02 Dec | v Sydney United H | |
| 06 Dec | v St George H | |
| 09 Dec | v Queensland Academy H | |
| 15 Dec | v Newcastle Breakers A | |
| 26 Dec | v Blacktown City A | |
| 30 Dec | v NSW ITC H | |
| 06 Jan | v ACT Academy A | |
| 14 Jan | v AIS H | |
| 27 Jan | v AIS A | |
| 03 Feb | v Wollongong City H | |
| 10 Feb | v Parramatta Eagles A | |
| 17 Feb | v UTS Olympic H | |
| 24 Feb | v Sydney United H | |
| 01 Mar | v St George A | |
| 09 Mar | v Queensland Academy A | |
| 12 Mar | v Newcastle Breakers H | |
| 16 Mar | v AIS A | |
| 23 Mar | v Blacktown City A | |
| 27 Mar | v NSW ITC H | |
| 30 Mar | v ACT Academy H | |
| 06 Apr | v Wollongong City A | |
| 08 Apr | v Parramatta Eagles H | |
| 14 Apr | v UTS Olympic A | |
| 21 Apr | v Sydney United A | |
| 28 Apr | v St George H | |

Australian FOOTBALL WEEKLY

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it's either BLACK or it's WHITE

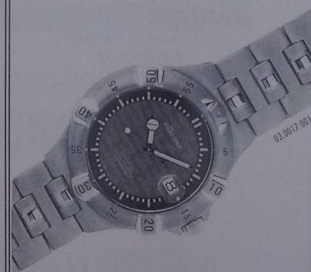
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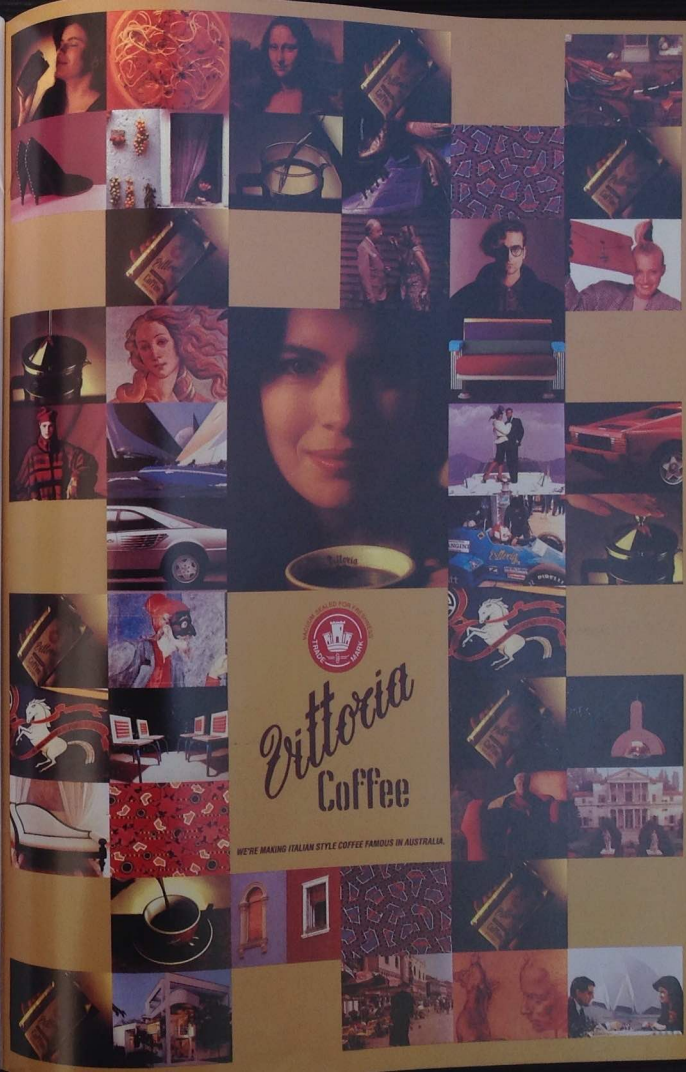
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